



Docket No. BMID9826US

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Wolfgang-Reinhold Knappe

Application No.: 09/426,931

Group No.: 1743

Filed: October 22, 1999

Examiner: Cross, LaToya I.

For: SPREADING LAYERS, WETTING AGENTS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION AND THEIR USE IN TEST STRIPS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the continued prosecution application (CPA) of prior application serial number 09/426,931, filed October 22, 1999:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claim 29 as follows:

29. A test strip comprising a spreading material, the spreading material comprising a porous flat structure impregnated with a wetting agent, wherein the wetting agent is N-oleoyl-sarcosinate.

Kindly amend claims 35-38 by replacing the first occurrence of "spreading material" in line 1 of each claim with "test strip".

Kindly amend claim 39 as follows:

39. A process for producing a test strip comprising a spreading material, comprising the steps of providing a test strip comprising a porous flat structure and impregnating the porous